

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 28, 2000

LB 1234

marketing, marketing, marketing. We have no guarantees that ethanol will remain cheaper than no-lead, because the price of corn may go up or the price of oil may go down. And as the draft there showed, I believe, only the last year, and I think it's about the last year and a half, has ethanol been cheaper than no-lead. And, if price of crude goes back down, it's going to reverse. We're going to mandate something that is going to cost the consumer more now than straight no-lead. So, we need to consider that, too. With that, I'd certainly urge adoption of my amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Senator Beutler, on the Baker amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Baker, I may be one of those that don't understand, but at least right now I can't...I can't see why we should adopt your amendment. At my local Amoco station, when I'm there, the middle grade at 89 is with ethanol, and so if anybody wants a premium grade that doesn't have ethanol in it, they have to go to 91. If you adopt this bill, you'll...you can still have an 89 octane grade with ethanol. And, if you don't like ethanol, you still have to go to 91. So, under the marketing system I'm used to seeing around my neighborhood, this doesn't make any difference and the advantage of it is that under the lowest price ethanol is going to be more competitive. So, at least as I understand it right now, I wouldn't be in favor of your amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Baker, your light is next.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. I'm going to make one last attempt. Currently, and I...you're right, Senator Beutler, right now 87 octane no-lead is probably priced cheaper...or higher priced than the midgrade 89 octane ethanol at Amoco. Is that correct, or is that...he's shaking his head yes. What this bill would do is require that 87 octane fuel to be ethanol blended, right? And it would require that Amoco dealer to drop the 89...he could still sell the 89 octane ethanol, but I would think what they're going to do is they're going to sell an 87 octane ethanol, an 89 octane no-lead or,